



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Kenichi KIMURA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2861**

Serial No.: **09/912,503**

Examiner: **Kristal J. PEGGINS**

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

April 19, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2003, the response date of which having been extended by two months to April 19, 2004, Applicants submit the following remarks, which begin on page 2 of this paper.